



Scandinavian Centre News



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TEN PAGES

AUGUST, 1970

LINDA NELSON CROWNED QUEEN

CENTRE GROUP FLIGHTS FOR CHRISTMAS

Christmas may seem to be far away at this very moment but if you are planning to visit Scandinavia, particularly Copenhagen, Denmark, or Oslo, Norway, then now is the time to plan ahead.

The Scandinavian Centre is proud to announce their Christmas flights program to Scandinavia. Flight No. 33 leaves Edmonton on December 12 for Copenhagen and returns on January 2, 1971. Flight No. 34 departs on December 14 for Oslo, via Copenhagen, returning on January 4, 1971.

You travel in a beautiful DC-8 aircraft which is the safest plane in the air today, with pilots who are experienced and completely competent. You have no stops once you board the plane until you arrive at Copenhagen. If you are going to Oslo, then you continue from Copenhagen.

Also when you book a flight through the Scandinavian Centre you know you are travelling with fellow Scandinavians. Enjoying your trip with friends is part of the satisfaction of visiting the old country.

Children are no problem, either. If a child is under two years of age at the date of departure and carried by parents there is no charge. If children are under 12 they go for half fare. There is no need to leave the family behind just be-

cause you want to see the other side of the Atlantic.

The prices are inexpensive, also. Even though a price increase has been announced recently by air services, these flights have not done so. Adults on either flight is \$294, and children are \$148, Canadian funds.

There is only one stipulation for these flights, and that is that a person must be a shareholder of the Scandinavian Centre for at least six months prior to departure of flight. This in a sense makes it somewhat exclusive and particularly catering to Scandinavians which is a good thing. The flights are being booked through the Marlin Travel Service. They have offices in both Edmonton and Calgary. In Edmonton they are located at 210 McLeod Bldg., 10132 - 100 St., Telephone (403) 429-6151. In Calgary, 501 Herald Bldg., 206 - 7 Ave. S.W., Telephone (403) 263-2870. For enquiries contact either one, ask for the Scandinavian Desk; or at the Scandinavian Centre, 14220 - 125 Ave., Edmonton, Telephone 455-4355. The Scandinavian Centre is the best if you wish to book a flight or to send in your reservation form. See the large ad in this edition for further particulars.

Let's all go to Scandinavia this Christmas!



QUEEN CANDIDATES

(From left to right) Marlene Thorlakson, Cheryl Bakke, Linda Nelson, Iris Hagman, Hanna Rasmussen.

BY LILLIAN MACPHERSON

It rained on July 1, so all those who were anxiously waiting to hear who won the queen contest had to contain their curiosity until Sunday, July 5, when the crowning of the Miss Scandinavian Queen and a social evening were held in the Viking Room of the Scandinavian Centre. Their curiosity was satisfied when a little girl in costume carried two envelopes on a silver tray to President Ellsworth Halberg. The envelope which was labelled "first runner-up" contained the name of Miss Cheryl Bakke, Norwegian entrant. The president then opened the envelope labelled "first choice" and announced the Miss Scandinavian Queen to be Miss Linda Nelson. He crowned the new queen, and presented her with the Queen's Trophy. He then presented Cheryl with the First Runner-Up Trophy. The other three contestants, Miss Marlene Thorlakson from the Icelandic Society, Miss Iris Hagman from the Finnish Society, and Miss Hanna Rasmussen from the Danish Society, each received a trophy engraved "Miss Scandinavian Princess, 1970."

Guest artist Mrs. Viola Wallbank sang three lovely solos, which were very suited to the occasion. The Junior Sons of Norway dancers in costume performed an entertaining display of Norwegian dances. The five queen contestants wore their ethnic costumes with corsages of pink and white carnations. They had been judged at a previous function at the Scandinavian Centre by judges Mrs. Megan Smith of the CFRN news department, Mrs. Marjorie Heather, teacher and student counsellor of Ross Shephard High School, and Mr. Ron Wigmore, manager of the Jubilee Auditorium.

President of the Scandinavian Centre, Mr. Halberg, greeted the contestants and guests and addressed the audience. Harvey Haugen was master of ceremonies, Margaret Cameron was chairman and organizer of the whole event. After the formal crowning, the ladies served coffee and a delicious smorgasbord lunch.

add a special beauty to the area, and it will take years for this to clear up, he said. He estimated that about half the private buildings in the community were covered by insurance, and about 75 per cent of the farmers were covered by crop insurance.

Initial reports from government officials who visited the area indicate a 100 per cent crop loss in an area 35 to 40 miles long and three to six miles wide.

About 320 farms were affected to some degree, and these farms involve 115,000 acres. Estimates are that from one-half to one-third of the farmers were not covered by insurance.

Although Mayor Hafso has applied to the governments for financial assistance, there seems none so far forthcoming.

27th VASA CONVENTION

BY MARTHA J. KAY

The Twenty-Seventh Grand Lodge Convention of the Vasa Order of America was held June 6-12, 1970, at the Leamington Hotel, Minneapolis, Minnesota. Minnesota District Lodge No. 7 was host.

Bert Johnsson of Calgary was a delegate for Alberta. District Master John Holmlund and Annie of Falun were present for the week long event as were I. E. (Don) Johnson and Evelyn, and Linnea Lodge.

The opening ceremonies were especially impressive with the presentation of flags on Sweden's Flag Day. At the Welcome Banquet entertainment was provided by the two Swedish Male Choirs of the Twin Cities. Consul General Bengt Odevall spoke to the visitors before leaving for a post in Brazil.

On Sunday the assemblage travelled to Vasa, Minnesota, to attend services at a Lutheran Church which was erected in 1867. The afternoon found the members in Somerset, Wisconsin, on the Apple River

where dinner took the form of a smorgasbord.

As there were no sessions on Wednesday, all were able to visit the American Swedish Institute in the tour of the two cities. Swan J. Turnblad, founder of the Institute, was born in Smaland, Sweden, in 1860. A picture window of stained glass above the stair landing shows an artistic conception of the historical scene of the Sacking of Visby. There are 37 rooms in the building and many fine historical items are shown. The dining room is the most ornate room in the building. Oak was used throughout with carving of bleached mahogany. A number of well known persons have been entertained in this room, among them are: President Eisenhower and staff, Dag Hammarskjold, Edgar Bergen, H.R.H. Prince Bertil of Sweden, Chief Justice Earl Warren, and Governors J. Hugo Aronson and Nelson A. Rockefeller.

The evening was completed with supper at the Old Log Theatre in

Excelsior, Minnesota, and attendance at the live theatre to see "Two Dozen Red Roses" starring Kathryn Terwilliger.

On Thursday twenty-seven new members were initiated by Tegner Lodge No. 167 Degree Team.

The Grand Banquet was held on Friday in the Hall of States. Governor LeVander of the State of Minnesota, who is of Swedish origin, brought greetings to the visitors of his state. "Flickorna Fem" and the Skeet's Langley Trio provided some exceptional entertainment. The highlight of the evening was the conferring of an Honorary Life Membership to Colonel Edwin Aldrin. He showed movie films and slides of his trip to the moon and explained many of the experiments that he and Colonel Armstrong were assigned. Those attending the Convention were privileged to attend a private reception prior to dinner to meet the astronaut.

The Convention in session found favor in voting District Alberta No. 18 to host the next convention in 1974. Bert Johnsson was elected to the Executive Board. He is the third Canadian so honored. His next meeting with Grand Lodge Officers will be in Akron, Ohio, in October of this year. Eighteen members from Sweden were present for all sessions. District Master Karl Lagnefors of District No. 19 Northern Sweden, an impressive delegate, will act as host for the Swedish Government and the Vasa Order of America when Colonel Aldrin visits

Sweden this month to receive the Swedish American Award of the Year.

1971 is the Diamond Jubilee of the Order and many plans are being made so that it will be a banner year.

VIKING DISASTER

It was a particularly unfortunate thing that the town of Viking, Alta., should have been so completely damaged by hail and wind storm that occurred on Saturday, July 11. The violent hailstorm smashed windows, damaged buildings and pounded trees and crops into the ground.

Virtually every other store on the east side of the main street was damaged, and at the time sidewalks were almost impassable because of debris, broken glass and banks of hailstones.

Mayor Selmer Hafso said that every building in the town suffered at least some damage. Hundreds of windows were smashed, and the boarded-up houses and stores gave the community an almost ghostly appearance.

Mayor Hafso said the damage could amount to more than \$2,000,000 if one is to include the crop loss. He described Viking as a disaster area. The mayor was particularly distressed over the damage to trees, hedges and gardens. These

SPLINTERS from the BOARD

BY GUNNAR THORVALDSON

SCANDINAVIAN CENTRE NEWS —

We had a good response to our ads for a new employee, this position includes the editors duties. Eight of the applicants were selected for interviews and the final selection was a difficult one because the men and women interviewed were excellent candidates.

Mr. Leslie Morris has been hired and commenced work on July 2nd. We feel that we are fortunate in obtaining the services of Mr. Morris as he is well qualified for the editor's job and he will also handle queries about the charter flight program.

A picture and story of him appears elsewhere in this issue.

A meeting will be held in the Centre on September 15th for the correspondents to meet Mr. Morris. All people who are interested in the newspaper are invited — the September paper will have the agenda and further details. Make it a point to attend.

SCANDINAVIAN CENTRE PICNIC

Margaret Cameron was given a vote of thanks at the last board meeting for the excellent way in which the Scandinavian Centre Queen contest was handled. The judging was done prior to the picnic and the winner and runner up were to have been announced at our annual Scandinavian Day. When the picnic was rained out Claus Jacobsen booked the Centre and rescheduled the Queen crowning ceremony for the following Sunday. This went off very well. Miss Linda Nelson, who represented the Swedes, is our 1970 Queen; Cheryl Bakke, of the Norwegians, is the first runner up.

The picnic will be held on August 23rd at Vasa Park.

RADIO REPORT —

Claus Jacobsen will be giving the report on station CFCW every Saturday morning on the "Scandinavian Show" for the month of August. If you have something of interest for the broadcast give him a call at 489-1494. The program begins at 10:30 a.m. with the Scandinavian Centre report at approximately 11:25. CFCW is 790 Kc on your AM dial.

The report during September will be given by Gary Johnson.



CLAUS JACOBSEN
Radio Reporter

BLOOD THEN — CHAMPAGNE NOW

The reason why ships are christened with a bottle of champagne is fascinating.

In pagan times, sailors hoped to persuade the gods in charge of the oceans to keep them and their ships safe from the perils of the sea. When a ship was completed, a priest would pour wine over an altar on board the ship. In effect, they were trying to win favor by buying the gods a drink.

Some authorities believe the custom of shattering the bottle of champagne over a new ship's bow came from the Viking's way of invoking the protection of the gods when they launched their war galleys. They offered human sacrifices, tying victims to the rollers over which the ship was launched, so that their blood would sprinkle the ship. It is true that before champagne was used in more recent times, the ceremony was performed with blood-red wine.

DEATHS

Premier Bjarni Benediktsson, 62, who led the movement bringing Iceland into NATO, was burned to death early July 10 along with his wife and grandson when a fire swept the premier's state-owned summer house at Thingvalla, 38 miles from the capital.

The premier, his wife Sigridur Bjornsdottir and his two-year-old grandson Benedikt Wilmundarsson went there to spend the night.

Firemen hurried to the scene when the alarm was raised but the wooden building was reduced to ashes.

A neighbor raised the alarm when he saw the house in flames.

Benediktsson, chairman of the Independence party, became premier in November, 1963, when he succeeded Olafur Thors who resigned for health reasons.

He had previously served in the Thors administration as minister of justice and later as foreign minister.

— The Edmonton Journal.

On July 10 Peter Hougland of Edmonton, formerly of Hardisty, Alta., passed away at the Royal Alexandra Hospital, at the age of 86 years. He leaves to mourn his loss, one son, Roy Edmonton; two daughters, Mrs. J. E. (Elizabeth) Starratt, Mrs. John (Jean) Gibson, both of Edmonton; eight grandchildren and 12 great-grandchildren. Funeral services and interment were held on July 13 at Battle Bend, Alta.

Erling Nordlie, manager of the Royal George Restaurant in Edmonton, passed away recently.

Peter Larsen, 46, Denmark's agriculture minister and youngest cabinet member, died July 9, after he suffered a heart attack.

THE EDITOR SAYS . . .

The rain that fell throughout Edmonton Thursday evening, July 9, came down so fast it caused sewers to back up and flood basements, particularly in the west end of the city. The weather office registered 1.66 inches of rain within an hour.

The basement of the Scandinavian Centre at 14220 - 125 Avenue was flooded in places with some 15 inches of water. Due to the magnanimous efforts of the new caretaker of the building, Gunnar Jeppesen, and his wife Camille, the water was pumped out and the mess completely cleaned up as they worked all night, even to having the floors waxed by 8:00 in the morning.

Volunteer work is great, but the decision to have a full time caretaker has been completely justified in this instance alone.

The exterior of the Scandinavian Centre has had a complete cleaning and painting job done which makes the Centre look like new again. The work was done by Svend Herman of West End Painting and Decorating.

The excitement of Edmonton's Klondike Days are still lingering in the air as the paper goes to press. We hope everyone had a wonderful time during the many events. Edmonton is never quite the same after each year's fair, but it is always a memorable time. So much happens it's difficult to keep up with everything. Let's hope you enjoyed yourself. Costumes can be put away, beards shaved off, and memories tucked away for another year. There's really nothing like Edmonton's Klondike Days.

WEDDING BELLS

CORRIGAL-VIGFUSSEN

On June 26 at Mount Olivet Lutheran Church, Miss Judith Colleen Vigfusson became the bride of Mr. Edward Roy Corrigan. The bride is the daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Herbert G. Vigfusson of Sherwood Park, Alta., and the groom is the son of Mr. and Mrs. Roy Corrigan, also of Sherwood Park.

Pastor Madsen officiated at the double ring ceremony. Dr. Gene Torgrenrud sang a wedding prayer. Sharida and Jeffrey Deeprope played violins during the service, accompanied on the piano by Mr. Hofelt. Mrs. Madsen played the organ. The groom's sister, Dianne Corrigan, was matron of honor; Karen Hawes, cousin to the bride, and Darlene Vigfusson, sister of the bride, were bridesmaids. Peggy and Patty McMullen, cousins of the bride, were flower girls. The bride and her attendants all wore empire waisted chiffon dresses. The bride's white dress had a matching train, floor-length veil and long chiffon sleeves. She carried white orchids on a bible. The attendants all wore picture hats, and their dresses ranged in color from hot pink to pale pink. This pink theme was carried through to the flowers which were pink and white pom pom mums and spider mums.

The groom was attended by Bryan Vigfusson, brother of the bride, Kent Lukinuk, friend of the couple, Brian Kufay, cousin of the bride, and Gary Corrigan, brother of the groom. Brian Corrigan was ring bearer.

The wedding reception was held in the Nordic Room of the Scandinavian Centre, where Mrs. Stella Kassian catered the dinner. Dr. Gene Torgrenrud was master of ceremonies. Steini Jonsson proposed the toast to the bride. The Comboettes played for the wedding dance which followed the reception.

The newlyweds will reside in Edmonton.

MCMAHON-SHANTZ

Jo-Ann Thora, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Roy Shantz, was given in marriage by her father to Mr. Alan Pearson McMahon, son of Mr. and Mrs. Lester McMahon, all of Edmonton, on Saturday, June 13, 1970, at 4:00 p.m. at Bethel Lutheran Church. Rev. W. Ritter officiated at the double ring ceremony.

Attendants for the bride were Valerie McMahon, sister of the groom, Linda Edey and Gloria Speers, friends of the bride. The groom's attendants were Marvin Kroetsch, Jerry and Neil McMahon — the latter two cousins of the groom. Shelley Moore was flower-girl, and James J. Moore was ring-bearer. These children are niece and nephew of the bride.

The bride wore a floor-length gown of ligoda, trimmed with white daisy lace. Her veil was floor length, and she carried a semi-cascade bouquet of yellow roses and daisy mums. Bridesmaids and flower-girl wore floor-length dresses of yellow fantasy material. They carried daisy mums and stephanotis.

The reception and wedding dance were held at St. Basil's Cultural Centre. Master of ceremonies for the event was Tom Moore, the bride's brother. Eric Nielsen proposed the toast to the bride. The three-tiered wedding cake was made by the groom's mother.

The newly married couple honeymooned in the mountains, and have returned to Edmonton to live at 10626 - 80 Avenue. Alan is teaching in Devon this year while Jo-Ann returns to the University of Alberta for her final year in the faculty of Education.

NILSEN GETS CONTRACT

The federal ministry of transport announced the award of a contract in the amount of \$33,888 to Norman Nilsen Construction Limited, 9615 - 56th Ave., Edmonton, for construction of a new transmitter building and related work at Fort Nelson, B.C. The work is due to be completed by approximately August 31 this year.

GUNNARSON RECEIVES AWARD

Former Winnipeg Free Press Weekly Women's Editor Caroline Gunnarson of Winnipeg has been awarded second prize in the Canadian Womens Press Club Memorial Awards competition in 1969. Miss Gunnarson was presented with \$50.00 for her column "Courtesy or High Cost Concession" which appeared in the Sept. 6, 1969, issue of the Free Press Weekly.

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Peter Fjeseth, Kingman, Alta.
D. E. L., Edmonton.

FINLAND APPOINTS NEW GOVERNMENT

President Urho Kekkonen of Finland appointed a new coalition government July 15, a climax to tough negotiations lasting four months.

Ahti Karjalainen of the Centre party was named premier. His government contains five ministers from his party, five Social Democrats, three Communists, two Liberals and two Swedish party members. The new government has a majority of 142 in the 200-seat parliament.

— The Edmonton Journal.

SHIRLEY LEAVES PAPER



SHIRLEY THORVALDSON

"The Reluctant Editor" was an appropriate title for our past editor of THE SCANDINAVIAN CENTRE NEWS — Shirley Thorvaldson. The director in charge of the publication, her husband Gunnar Thorvaldson, was desperately searching for an editor to replace Peggy Norgaard in May, 1968, and so with his coaxing and "threats" and a few words from Paul Karvonen, Shirley took over as editor.

It was certainly with anxiety and ignorance that the first issue went to press but with help and encouragement from Peggy Norgaard, husband Gunnar and the printer, Chris Rockley, all went well.

Shirley found the position interesting and stimulating, affording an opportunity to work with a most co-operative group of correspondents.

Born in southwestern Manitoba at Lyleton on July 30, 1932, she is the only daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Herb Edgar. She has a brother, Barry, who is married and resides at Lyleton.

Mrs. Thorvaldson took her schooling in Lyleton and enjoyed an active small town life. She took piano lessons, sang in a junior choir, curled, played ball and most of all loved figure skating.

Her education was continued in Winnipeg when Shirley went to Success Business College. During this time and her career days she was able to continue her hobbies of singing and skating. She sang with the Jean Bassey Singers, Kerr Wilson Choristers and the Daniel Mac' Choir.

In 1954 she was introduced to Gunnar Thorvaldson and two years later they became Mr. and Mrs. This was also her first introduction to the Icelandic community and culture.

The Thorvaldsons moved to Edmonton early in 1961 with two children — Gary, now 12 years, and Cindy, now 10 years. Carla arrived in 1962.

Shortly after their arrival Gunnar and Shirley joined the Icelandic Society and became involved with it, which in turn led to their active association with the Scandinavian Centre.

Although kept busy the last two years with the newspaper and an active family, Shirley has still been active in her church, the Saga Singers of the Icelandic Society, her bridge club, and gardening.

Mrs. Thorvaldson has been making sure the paper has been published and sent out to you for over two years. She has enlarged and enlivened the news and information with her personal touch.

May we extend to her thanks for a job nobly done and wish her the very best in anything she may do in the future.

VASA LODGE SKANDIA



BY MARTHA J. KAY

Vasa Lodge Skandia held their regular monthly meeting at the Clubhouse, Vasa Club, Pigeon Lake. Vice Chairman Helge Erickson opened the meeting at 7:30 p.m., July 4, 1970.

Members reported as sick included: Minnie Nelson, Evelyn Modin, Anna Dodds, Marjorie Correll, Roy Samuelson, John Jarratt, and Gust Lundgren.

The Social Committee reported that the Strawberry Tea and White Elephant Sale went off very well. A report was read from Gertie Holmgren on behalf of the Children's Club, thanking all who helped during the 1969-1970 season.

Doreen Nyroos, on behalf of the Sports Club thanked all who helped with the dinner and dance held in June.

Linnea Lodge, Don and Evelyn Johnson reported on their visit to the Grand Lodge Convention.

Lunch was donated by Mae Kurz, Gertie Holmgren, and Evelyn Modin.

A Klondike Dance and pancake breakfast followed.

VASA GLIMPSES

Don and Evelyn Johnson motored to Winnipeg and visited with relatives before travelling to Minneapolis for the Grand Lodge Convention. Linnea Lodge travelled by air and John and Annie Holmlund had their house on wheels with them while in Minneapolis.

Apparently Evelyn and Linnea were seen passing out "dope" around the hotel and on the tour buses. We also wonder what they were up to prowling around the hallways after midnight unescorted.

Svea Erickson has been visiting Lulu and Harold Lundgren in Saskatoon.

Joan and Lennart Petersson have as visitors, Lennart's brother and sister-in-law from Sweden. They all motored to the West Coast visiting relatives in Victoria, and friends, the Ohlsson's in Vancouver. On the way home they stopped in Enilda, Alta., to visit more relatives.

Eric and Margaret Engvall have a visitor from Sweden—Eric's niece, Kerstin Engvall.

Mrs. Martha Hokanson, her daughter, son-in-law, and family from Vancouver, are visiting Ernie Hokanson and family.

Herman Nelson has been holidaying at the West Coast, visiting friends in Vancouver and Victoria.

The Cliff Lindbergs have one of their grandsons visiting them from Richmond, B.C.

Mr. and Mrs. Bud Holmgren have his sister, Kristine, here as a visitor from Sweden. Welcome back, Kristine. Hope we shall all have a chance to visit with you again.

VASA LODGE SKANDIA'S CHILDREN'S WEEK

The Children's Week out at Vasa Club by Pigeon Lake was very successful. It started on the 5th of July. The leader this year was Mrs. Cliff Lindberg, assisted by Mrs. Don Johnson and Mrs. M. Pearson. The leaders of the outside activities, such as swimming, culture, exercises, etc., were Mrs. Verna Larson, Mr. Ben Kristianson, and Mr. Paul Nyroos. There was also very able assistance from the following Junior Councillors: Jimmy Johnson, Betty Wold, Ken Eliasson, Glen Knutson, Jerry Kurz, Len Heeks and the very capable musician, Beverley Kvarnberg from Buford Lodge. Handicrafts were handled by Mrs. E. Kurz, assisted by Carol Markstrom and Lynn Kurz. The cooks were Mrs. C. Knutson, Mrs. Charles Rautio, Mrs. E. Pierre, Mrs. H. Markstrom, Mrs. Bert Watson, Mrs. E. Markstrom, with Mr. M. Pearson as "bull cook". Leslie Watson and Genene Lund also gave a hand, plus a few other cabin owners. Everybody was helpful and congenial so everything was fine.

The program on Friday evening was interrupted by rain and thunder, but still turned out real good. A fair audience turned up to watch. Mrs. Verna Larson was mistress of ceremony. District Master John Holmlund opened the program with a short speech and greetings from The Grand Lodge Convention. The children sang both Swedish and English songs and danced Swedish folk dances, which was enjoyed by all. The highlight of the grown-ups' part in the program was songs by Mrs. Irene Reed and Mrs. Irene Hokanson who sang some beautiful Swedish songs; Beverly Kvarnberg played a couple of lovely solo numbers on the piano plus doing all the accompanying for everybody. The cooks sang a ditty to the tune of "The Old Grey Mare" using kitchen utensils as accompaniment, and Mrs. M. Pearson told a few puns on the kitchen help. Mrs. C. Lindberg thanked everybody for their co-operation and donations. Mr. Eric Kvarnberg from Buford Lodge was not there so we wish to thank him for the generous donation of good potatoes that lasted all week.



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ICELANDIC NEWSLETTER

BY LILLIAN MACPHERSON

After September 1, your correspondent's address will be : 7870 Jasper Avenue. The phone number will be 422-7557. Please make a note of this change in your blue book. As your correspondent is returning to a full time job this month, please phrase your news to her after 6:00 p.m. Thank you, all.

NEW MEMBER. Add this name to your blue book: Mr. John A. Owen, Jr., Canadian Wildlife Service, 515 Centennial Building, Edmonton.

Bertha Keyes was invited to Fawcett, Alta., where relatives and friends surprised her with an 80th birthday celebration. She returned to her home on Vancouver Island by air.

Birthday greetings to our life members who have or are celebrating at this time of year. Henry Sumarladason on July 1; Mrs. Sadie Lee, Wylgreen Nursing Home, Qualicum Beach, B.C., on August 25; Mrs. Bergros Palsson, Rotary Harbour Lodge, Dawson Creek, B.C., on August 26.

When Olina Benson at Lundar, Man., was turning 90 years old, her two daughters decided to invite her namesake from Iceland to come to Lundar for the birthday celebration. Olina Jonsdottir from Borgarfjord, her sister, Astfridur Jonsdottir, from Myra, and an 11 year old son, Olaf Olafson, all came to Lundar. They visited an aunt, Christine Paulson, in Betel, and other relatives in the interlake district, then travelled to Seattle and Vancouver. On their way back they stopped in Edmonton, and surprised Mrs. Charles H. Grant with a telephone call. They stayed at the Sumarladason home, and also enjoyed the hospitality of the Grants. They were toured around the city, after which they returned east to Manitoba, to New York, and then to Iceland.

Oliver Bjornson, who resides in Hofn in Vancouver, was a visitor at the home of Mr. and Mrs. Roy Shantz. Finna Shantz is his niece. On his eastern tour, he went to Grande Prairie, Alta., Selkirk, Man., Edinburgh, North Dakota, and Markerville, Alta. The Society wishes to thank him for the \$10.00 contribution he made while here, toward the mailing of the paper to Hofn. He says the residents at 2020 Harrison Drive, Vancouver 16, B.C., thoroughly enjoy the news.

Earl and Pearl Valgardson sent a letter of condolence to the people of Iceland on behalf of the Icelandic community in Edmonton after hearing of the tragic death of the premier of Iceland. Premier Bjarni Benediktsson, his wife, Sigridur Bjornsdottir, and two year old grandson, Benedikt Wilmundarsen, were at their state-owned summer home in Thingvalla when it was razed by fire. All three lost their lives. The letter from the Society was sent to President Kristjan Eldjarn.

Kay and Vic Janssen were part of the Klondike Caravan that went on the Circle Tour. They were joined by Bill and Carol Janssen from Penhold, and together they attended the Calgary Brewery and Malting barbeque at the Stampede grounds in Calgary. This barbeque was to celebrate the official opening of the Horseman's Hall of Fame. The Hall is decorated with the brands used in the early days, and the brand of their father, Mr. W. E. Janssen, was prominently displayed. There is a book describing all the brands on display.

Viola and Bill Wallbank motored to Foam Lake, Sask., to visit with friends. Viola has successfully recovered from the operation she had earlier this year in the Ft. Saskatchewan hospital.

Phyllis Kristianson drove to Regina for her niece's wedding on July 1, after which she went to Winnipeg to visit at her sister's summer home in Lac du Bonnet. Marino joined her there, after spending a week at Lake Tahoe at a conference, and another week in Seattle at the Unitarian Universalist annual meetings.

Donna Cameron was a nurses' assistant at a ten day United Church camp at Surprise Lake, Alta., 20 miles from Edson.

Barbara Lawrence spent two weeks at Leduc, holidaying with her friend, Bonnie Chapman.

Thora Vaughn of Vocanville, California, visited with her parents, Pauline and Alex Mitchell, for two weeks. While she was there, the three of them went to Dawson Creek, B.C., to see Pauline's mother, Mrs. Gergros Palsson.

Jo and Cec Couves and their two youngest boys spent two weeks in Kelowna, B.C., relaxing.

Helen Halldorson visited with her step-mother in Saskatoon, then picked up her sister-in-law, Mrs. John Halldorson, in Winnipeg. The two of them spent three weeks in Newtonville, Ohio, and surrounding area, staying with Helen's sister, Miss Jean Sitter, a retired missionary, and her house-mate, Miss Sybil Wilburn.

Aurora Johnson from Olds, Alta., visited with her brother, Ed Hordal, in Yellowknife in July.

Pat Mracek, daughter of Ed and Mary Hordal, and her four children, drove from Regina to Yellowknife in July. Her husband joined them later for his holidays.

Walter and Beulah Arason visited his parents in International Falls, Minn.

Many thanks to Marlene Thorlakson for representing the Icelandic Society so well in the Miss Scandinavian Queen contest. She wore the Icelandic national dress, and had pink and white flowers. She was presented with a trophy engraved "Miss Scandinavian Princess, 1970". As a token of appreciation from the Society, and as a memento of the occasion, Mrs. Sumarladason, representing our Cultural Committee, gave Marlene a set of silver coffee spoons.

Margaret Cameron deserves congratulations for the monumental job she did of organizing the Miss Scandinavian Queen judging and crowning. It was a memorable affair.

Two members of the Society are spending a good deal of this nice weather in the hospital. Gus Roland had to have surgery in July, and was recovering gradually at Station 55 in University Hospital. Lorne MacPherson also underwent surgery in July and spent the month at Station 46 in University Hospital. Speedy recovery to you both.

Leif and Lucille Oddson spent some week days in the mountains, and then took off for Winnipeg and Gimli, Man., where they will visit Leif's mother, who is in Betel at Selkirk, as well as other relatives and friends.

Recent guests at the home of the Bill Halldorson's were Mrs. Anna Samson of Vancouver, and Mr. and Mrs. Earl Nutting of North Battleford, Sask. Mrs. Sampson and Mrs. Nutting are aunts of Tody's Halldorson.

Bill's sister and husband, Mr. and Mrs. Bill Gretsinger of Vancouver, also visited. The Halldorson's went to Lundar, Man., on August 1 and 2 for the homecoming celebrations that Lundar is having to celebrate Manitoba's Centennial. A thousand former residents are expected to attend.

The Halldorson's both lived in Lundar all their lives until moving to Edmonton fifteen years ago, so they still feel very much a part of the community.

Barnie and Ida Stephanson are in Edmonton for the summer on their return from Ghana, Africa. They stopped off for a week in Iceland where forty of their relatives held a reception for them.

Their daughter, Anne, is marrying Lorne Lea of Jarvie on August 14 in Edmonton. Their son, Eric, is marrying Carol Chapin of Lansing, Michigan, August 28 in Michigan, after which the couple will come to Edmonton to live while Eric continues his studies.

The Stephansons return to Ghana on September 12 for one more year where Barnie is organizing a Department of Agricultural Engineering at the University of Science and Technology at Kumasi, Ghana.

THORSON STARTS COURT ACTION

J. T. Thorson, 81, former president of the Exchequer Court, has started a court action to challenge the constitutional validity of the Official Languages Act.

Mr. Thorson, acting on his own behalf as a taxpayer, filed a statement of claim in the Supreme Court of Ontario asking it to rule the federal act invalid.

His action is against three cabinet ministers — Justice Minister John Turner as attorney-general of Canada; State Secretary Gerald Pelletier, responsible for administering the act; and James Richardson, minister of supply and services who, as receiver-general of Canada, pays the salaries of the officials involved.

Also named in addition to the ministers are Keith Spicer, recently named commissioner of official languages; Roger Duhamel chairman; and Paul Fox and Roger St. Denis, members of the bilingual districts advisory board.

The act establishes procedures by which English and French would be official working languages in government offices and services in districts where there is sufficient population of the two language groups to require bilingual services.

Mr. Thorson, a 1910 Rhodes scholar, lawyer, and Liberal cabinet minister before going to the Exchequer Court in 1942, sought by his statement of claim not only to upset the law enacted last year, but also to stop the salary payments of the languages commissioner and advisory board members.

His statement of claim will require a response from the federal justice department, probably in September after the court's summer recess. Appeals on technicalities could be carried to the Supreme Court of Canada and cause years of litigation.

1970 XMAS FLIGHT PROGRAM

FLIGHT No. 33 — DECEMBER 12 - JANUARY 2

EDMONTON to COPENHAGEN, DENMARK

Adults \$294.00 Children \$148.00

FLIGHT No. 34 — DECEMBER 14 - JANUARY 4

EDMONTON to OSLO, NORWAY

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- PASSENGERS: Children under two years of age on the date of departure, carried by parents free of charge if reported to your organizer. Children over two, but under 12 on the date of departure, travel on the children's fee.
- PAYMENT: Airport Tax and Loss of Fare Protection compulsory.
- DEPOSIT: Of \$100.00 per person must accompany each reservation. Cheques to be made payable to the Scandinavian Centre Flight Number. Reservation with cheque must be delivered or mailed to The Scandinavian Centre. Please add exchange to all out of town cheques.
- REFUNDS: Deposit will be refunded if the flight is cancelled. A person may cancel his or her reservation if notice is served in writing sixty days before departure of flight. Cancellation fee of \$10.00 will be charged.
- DOCUMENT: Every passenger must be in possession of a valid passport and valid certificate of vaccination.
- BAGGAGE: Limit of 44 pounds per each fare.
- ELIGIBILITY: Every passenger or the head of immediate family, must be a shareholder of the Scandinavian Centre for at least 6 months prior to departure of flight.

RESERVATION FORM

Charter Flight No. 33 34

NAME AGE

ADDRESS PHONE:

DEPENDENT (Date of birth if under 2 years)

I enclose \$ to be credited to my account, the balance \$ to be paid two months before Flight Departure.

I am a member in good standing of the Scandinavian Centre Co-operative Assoc. Yes No

Date Signature

NEW EDITOR

Leslie Lawrence Morris was the younger of two boys born to bandmaster and electrician Frank Morris and his wife, Hilda, at Regina, Sask., on a bitterly cold day on February 26, 1920. The family shortly thereafter, however, moved to Swift Current where they resided for the next ten years.

Almost as soon as he could walk, young Leslie became interested in his father's music as he followed him around to band practices, concerts, picnics, festivals and hockey games where they used live bands in those days. He was the mascot and they nicknamed him "Whity" as his hair was bleached snow white under the hot, dry, sunny prairie skies.

The long, cold, dreary winters were conducive to indoor activities and at an early age the young boy took to reading. Many books took his fancy, and while listening to stories about the war on his daddy's knee, war stories fascinated him. By the time he was ten he had read the history of every Victoria Cross winner of the First World War. Writing, too, took his fancy and many stories he wrote of his boyish experiences were published in a children's section of THE REGINA LEADER POST.

In 1930 the family moved to Moose Jaw, where Leslie completed his high school and other training. In keeping with his interest in the military he joined the Non-Permanent Active Militia at the age of 14. There he trained in the Signal Corps of a Machine Gun Battalion.

With his interest in reading and writing never flagging he became the editor of his class paper and even started a school paper of his own. Later, while compiling some international information for a book

he planned to write about the beginning of the war, he realized a serious war was imminent and so tried to join the Royal Air Force as a pilot in 1938 at the age of 18. The regulations were high then and because he was slight and ten pounds under their weight rules, he was rejected. Many a jovial time was encountered as friends tried to ply him with free milk shakes to try to fatten him up. It was to no avail, however, for as the war did finally come in 1939 he again tried for aircrew, this time in the Royal Canadian Air Force, but was again rejected for the same reason.

Not to be deterred he took training in electronics and communications with the Dominion-Provincial Youth Training Program. After graduating at the top of the class and obtaining an Amateur Radio Certificate from the government, he finally joined the R.C.A.F. as a Wireless Electrical Mechanic. Put on an overseas draft shortly thereafter he finally reached Britain, via Reykjavik, Iceland, on May 1, 1941.

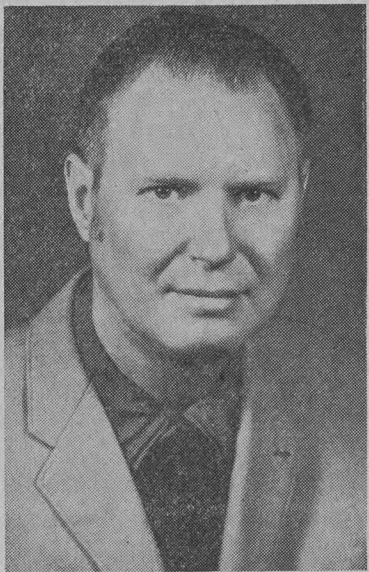
In England he immediately began training for what eventually became known as Radar, passing with 94% average and the only one in his class to obtain 100% in mathematics. He spent 3½ years in England as a Radar Technician being stationed primarily on the southern island — the Isle of Wight. He finally wound up with Fighter Command working on the latest equipment which directed fighters by radar to the enemy in the sky.

Because of seniority in his category he was returned to Canada in late 1944 and eventually obtained his discharge in 1945.

As a civilian now he was determined to become a radio announcer at the local station, CHAB Moose Jaw, where he had known such personalities as Earl Cameron, now C.B.C. news announcer, and Elwood Glover, also of C.B.C. Toronto. He

joined the station and the chief announcer then was Ralph Horley, now head of C.B.C. Alberta living in Edmonton.

During this time he attended the Banff School of Fine Arts, Extension Department of the University of Alberta, where he took a course in writing and acting. There he encountered the beautiful Olga Laruska, the Edmonton girl who eventually acted on C.B.C. radio, then in films with Columbia Studios as Dianne Foster. Also there was Ted Follows, now starring on the C.B.C.



LESLIE L. MORRIS

TV show "McQueen". It was because of Ted and a university professor, who was also attending the Banff School, that Les decided to go to Winnipeg to attend the University of Manitoba the following term. He lived with Ted and his family for a time and at university the two acted in Shakspearean plays together.

After the first term Les obtained an announcing job with the C.B.C.

in Winnipeg and when the next university year started decided to stay with them.

After a year, his inclination again turned to writing and through the British United Press Bureau in Winnipeg he was able to obtain a position as News Editor of radio station CKCK Regina, as well as becoming a B.U.P. stringer reporter.

Because of monetary considerations, Les became interested in the oil boom in Alberta and came to Edmonton in 1948. Shortly thereafter he started working with Halliburton Oil Well Cementing Company Limited as an electrologger working in the newly created fields around Edmonton. He happened to be present when the first Imperial well came in at Redwater working through the night to test it. Later he was stationed at Stettler for many months.

In 1950 during a quiet period he moved to Calgary where his brother and family lived and he remained there for the next thirteen years except for a spell to Medicine Hat and the Peace River country.

While in Calgary he worked as a salesman travelling the province for some years. Tiring of being away so much he went back to radio announcing — this time with CFCN Calgary and then to Medicine Hat with CHAT. Becoming somewhat discouraged he returned to Calgary where he took a job with Heiland Exploration Canada Limited as a seismic computer and was sent to Grimshaw, Alberta — Mile Zero of the Mackenzie Highway — where he spent several months in the friendly Peace River country. Later he was transferred back to Calgary.

It was shortly afterward that he met Beth Evesson whose father used to say had the map of Sweden written on her face, although she was born at Raymond, Alta., of English parents. In April, 1962, they were married. At the time, Les was taking flying lessons and said he would not

get married until he had obtained his Private Pilot Licence. Beth was wary but he finally did so a few weeks before the wedding date and he and his best man flew themselves to Lethbridge where the ceremony took place. They have lived happily together ever since although they have not been blessed with any children.

Now one would think that this would be the end of the story, but life does go on. Because Beth had been working so many years with the Alberta Government Telephones, when she was transferred to Edmonton and they did not want to jeopardize her long standing with A.G.T., they both moved to Edmonton in 1963. Les soon later began working with Shell Canada Limited as a seismic computer in the Exploration Department in the city.

To bring us up to date, at the end of 1967 during a slight recession many changes were taking place within the company and Les was obliged to do some work which was not entirely to his liking so he left and decided to take up his writing again. It was at this stage that he applied for and was accepted as editor of THE SCANDINAVIAN CENTRE NEWS which he feels will give him considerable satisfaction.

Les has regretted not continuing university when he had the chance and so has taken several courses at the University of Alberta Extension Department. He also took another course in non-fiction writing and made third place on a final assignment obtaining a certificate with a "VG" standing. He is a member of the Book-of-the-Month Club and although he is reading constantly he says he has a difficult time keeping up with his collection. In sports he likes golf and hopes to do some golfing again and perhaps take a few flights to keep his hand in flying.

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SOLGLYT SPOTLIGHT



BY WARREN CLARK

joying a trip in Norway.

COMING EVENTS

AUGUST 16th

Lodge Picnic has been cancelled.

SEPTEMBER 19th

Western Bar-B-Que and Dance —
Viking Room.

The Sons of Norway Bowling
Teams will be starting again on Sep-
tember 15. If interested in joining,
contact, Mr. Ed Veis at 476-7039
during the month of August.

Norwegian Folk-dancing will be-
gin again in the first part of Sep-
tember. If interested, contact Mrs.
Clara Lineham at 455-8860.

On June 21 everyone gathered
for the St. Hans Fest Picnic at Vic-
toria Park to socialize with old and
new acquaintances. The races then
took place and a good time was
had by all. The children really en-
joyed the peanut-scramble, but due
to overcast weather supper began
at 4:30 rather than 5:00 p.m. as
scheduled. When the weather
cleared up a baseball game was
started, children VS adults. Need-
less to say the children won.

The crowning of the Scandinavian
Centre Queen was held on July 5
at the Scandinavian Centre. Cheryl
Bakke, Sons of Norway Queen, was
runner-up to Linda Nelson of the
Swedish Group. The Dancers of the
Midnight Sun were there to enter-
tain with a few Norwegian dances.
Coffee and lunch followed with
background music supplied by Mr.
Joe Lineham.

This month Ted and Rodena
Franklin celebrated their 35th wed-
ding anniversary.

Mrs. Mina MacDonald's daughter,
Shirley Mancuso, and husband, from
Los Angeles, California, are in Ed-
monton and celebrated their 25th
wedding anniversary at the Scandi-
navian Centre July 11.

Emeth and Gladys Clark and fa-
mily are being visited by Rita Sor-
enson, Emeth's sister from Birch
Hills, Saskatchewan.

Aussy Cox, daughter of Andy and
Mathilda Mjaatveit, and husband
Bill, and son Ray are visiting from
Florida. They are having a good
time and say it's nice to be back
home. They also added there is
nothing like the west. They will be
going to the coast from here on their
three-month tour.

Don Hanson, a captain in the Air
Force, and his wife, Lorraine, son
and daughter-in-law of Christian
and Florence Hanson, left for Eng-
land on July 13. They will be post-
ed there for two years.

Sonja McBride and her grand-
mother, Martha Venoasen, are en-

Sharon Sorenson has returned
from Toronto after spending a one-
week visit there.

Mr. and Mrs. Joe Lineham visi-
ted relatives in and around Este-
van, Sask., and North Dakota in
June. Upon their return to Edmon-
ton they had a birthday party for
their twelve year old grandson,
Scott.

Mr. Hanson from Denmark, Pe-
ter's and Holgar's father is visiting
Peter who will go with his father
to Kitimat, B.C., to visit Holgar.

We wish a speedy recovery to the
following members: Fred Wibe in
the Charles Camsell Hospital, Emeth
Clark in the Royal Alexandra Hospi-
tal, Mrs. McKeivitt, mother of Bet-
ty McKeivitt, Kay Olafson, and Elva
Veis in the Royal Alexandra Hospi-
tal.

Olaf Sveen's new London Label
record "Salute To Scandinavia" was
released on June 29, 1970. This al-
bum of favorite Scandinavian selec-
tions can be secured at most record
shops across Canada. Regarding the
selections chosen for this album Olaf
Sveen says:

"I learned 'Tore-Valsen' at a May
17th celebration several years before
the war. One of my early accordion
heroes, Tore Aunebakk, kept playing
it all day and all night. 'Polka Fra
Skaane' is an old fiddle tune and
so is 'Reinlendar'. 'Hardanger-Val-
sen' was written down and sent to
me from Norway by the great Har-
ding-Fele Player, Sigbjorn Bernhoft
Osa. I understand it is the first time
this waltz has been recorded any-
where. 'Brudemarsj Fra Telemark'
has been at weddings for ages and
it was also used as a theme in a Nor-
wegian movie, 'Trysil-Knut', with
Alfred Maurstad in the title role.
'Svensk Reinlendar' has often been
used for folk-dancing at the Scand-
apades. 'Piken I Hamburg' is a Nor-
wegian Sailor-Waltz. 'Dans I Hof-
brauhaus' is my own composition
and I have met a great number of
Scandinavians there. 'Dar Nackrosan
Blommar' is an old favorite, maybe
made most famous by the Swedish
accordion player, Olle Johnny, and
'John Audun's Polka' is my own,
dedicated to John Nelson, who
started accordion lessons from me
when he was four years old."

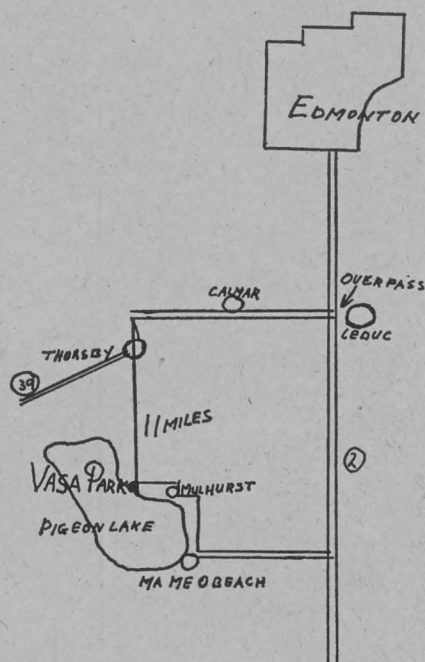
The correspondent for next month
is Mrs. Reidun Berg, phone No.
476-9380.

(Editor's Note: Warren Clark has
been accepted for a Nursing Orderly
Course which began on July 27.
Warren would also like to inform
you that he is now playing at dances
with his new band "THE RHYTHM
TWINs". We wish him success in
both ventures.)

REMEMBER

SCANDINAVIAN DAY PICNIC

WEDNESDAY, AUGUST 23rd, 1970



SCANDINAVIAN DAY PICNIC

VASA PARK, PIGEON LAKE

AUGUST, 23rd, 1970

PROGRAM

11:00 a.m. — Fastball Tournament
 12:00 Noon — Horseshoe Tournament
 2:00 p.m. — Stage Program
 Including:

Games and races, rolling pin throw and naildriving, competitions for ladies, tug-o-war for men.

Pack your picnic basket, come as you are, bring your friends and let's have:

A GREAT PICNIC:

NORDSTJARNAN NEWS

BY DAN EDIN

District Master John Holmlund and Mrs. Holmlund attended the Grand Lodge Convention held in Minneapolis, Minn. in June. They reported having had a good time and very pleased that the 1974 Convention is scheduled to be held in Alberta. Congratulations are in order for Bert Johnson of Branting Lodge, Calgary, who was appointed to the Grand Lodge Executive Board. Nordstjarnan Lodge wishes to thank John and Annie for personally conveying greetings from our lodge to the Grand Lodge.

Sunday, July 5, marked the 85th birthday of Sister Amy Olson. Approximately thirty close relatives of Sr. Olson gathered for a reunion to celebrate this wonderful occasion. Visiting here were Mrs. Olson's son Roger and wife with daughter and family from Prince George; grandson and wife and boys from Vancouver; son Archie and wife of Malmo; daughter Edna and husband and son of Edmonton; and son Norman of Westaskiwin. Also in attendance were daughter Bernice and husband of Lone Ridge district with two daughters and families; daughter Olga and husband of Falun district with son Dennis and son Brian and wife. With the weather co-operating for a special out-door dinner and social activity, it made a most enjoyable day for all. Nordstjarnan Lodge extends wishes to our eldest charter member for continued happy years.

Get Well Wishes are extended to Sister Elvira Anderson who had the misfortune of having a fall while visiting in Grand Prairie. Continued improvement is wished for Sister Carrie Thorsen who has been under doctor's care for quite some time. Good to see Br. John Remin home again after undergoing surgery on his back.

We wish to thank everyone who took part in arranging and supervising Vasa Camp Week.

Next meeting is scheduled for August 1 at Lone Ridge Hall. Our annual Children's Picnic is to be held on August 16.

HEYERDAHL MAKES IT

After a 57-day transatlantic crossing that he says proves the Egyptians could have discovered North America 4,000 years ago, Thor Heyerdahl and his seven international crew members landed at the harbor at Bridgetown, Barbados, in their water-logged papyrus boat Ra II.

The 55-year-old Norwegian explorer and his crew landed Sunday afternoon, July 12, after completing their 3,200-mile crossing that began May 17 at Safi, Morocco.

Heyerdahl's wife was on hand to greet her husband. Blonde Yvonne Heyerdahl, and the couple's 17-year-old daughter, Anette, chartered the government tug Culpepper and escorted the Ra II on the final leg of the adventure. Twenty other small boats accompanied them.

"It's good to be back again," Heyerdahl called to well-wishers as he tied up at the customs dock in the capital of Barbados. "We are delighted to be here, especially when we came so close last year."

Heyerdahl's first attempt last year to prove his theory ended 60 miles short of Barbados when the Ra I, a larger copy of the Egyptian boats shown on ancient tomb carvings, broke up in high seas.

Heyerdahl made another successful voyage in 1947 aboard his famous raft Kon-Tiki which he took from Peru to Polynesia. He said that 4,300-mile, 101-day voyage proved Peruvian Indians could have settled the Polynesian Islands of the South Pacific.

The Norwegian skipper's crew members of Ra II were from Egypt, Mexico, the Soviet Union, the United States, Italy, Japan and Morocco. They sailed under the blue-and-white United Nations flag.

Did You Know?

Edvard Grieg, the most important of Norwegian composers, was born in Bergen in 1843. He was taught piano by his mother. His incidental music for the poetic drama "Peer Gynt" by Henrik Ibsen made him world-famous.

BUFORD NEWS

BY AVIS I. PEARSON

Mr. and Mrs. Edwin Lundgren and family from Kulm, North Dakota, have been visitors at the home of George and Doris Modin.

Charlie and Tillie Erickson honored Quenton Lindstrom from Virginia with a dinner and a reunion with more of his cousins in this district. Mr. Lindstrom is on his way to Alaska and is accompanied by Eddie Lindberg for the remainder of the journey.

Thanks to the support of the Skandia members our midsummer dance held at Vasa Park was a success. The traditional birch trees and Maypole decorated the hall for the evening.

Our annual wiener roast and social evening will be held at Markstedt's Grove in place of our July meeting.

Charlie Erickson's cousin, Roy Erickson, from California, and Tillie's niece, Mrs. Carol Johnson, and children from Modesto, California, have been visitors at their home.

Mr. Eric Beck and Thyra Jacobson from Stockholm, Sweden, are visitors at the homes of his brother, Andrew, and niece, Marie Worbun. They will accompany Bertil and Florence Pearson on a trip to Jasper and Banff.

FINNISH SOCIETY



Mrs. Maija Luoma celebrated her 70th birthday recently and this is what she says:

"I would like to thank all my friends for the kindness they showed me on my 70th birthday. I was overwhelmed by the lovely gifts, flowers and messages. A special thanks to the ladies who prepared and arranged the lovely lunch. It was a special honour and pleasure to meet the distinguished Finnish visitors. Thank you all. With my deepest appreciation for making it such a memorable occasion."

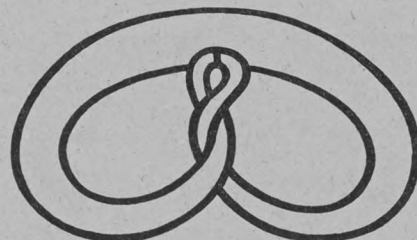
Maija Luoma.

The Valdres Samband, for its 75th Anniversary project is publishing a book on the Valdres immigration to the United States and Canada.

The committee in charge would appreciate information re Valdreses and their settlement in Canada. The type of material would include dates, district of origin, migration route, noted incidents, contributions of members to their adopted community and country. The names of Valdres Pastors and the parishes in which they served would be especially welcomed. In fact, any items that you think would be in a book of this kind would be gladly accepted.

Would you send your information to:

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Ponoka, Alberta



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A JOURNEY TO REMEMBER

Written by

MRS. MARGARET JAKOBSEN,
White House Lodge and Motel

This is the trip that Vagn and Margaret Jakobsen made from Ontario to White House Motel in Edgewater, B.C., which they took over March - April, 1968.

The first part of the story was in the July issue where they left Scarborough, Ontario, and got as far as Portage La Prairie, Man., where they stayed the night at a motel. Mrs. Jakobsen continues with the rest of the journey.

Thursday morning was very cold again and we had lots of trouble starting the car even with the jumper cables. At last it started and we left at 8:00 a.m. A beautiful cold day - 4 above - but good road and lots of prospects. I had difficulty seeing out my rear window, so was not always able to tell when Vagn was behind me. After about 30 miles I realized he was not there, so pulled over thinking he had stopped for gas. He didn't come so turned around to look for him. He was at a service station not too far back, with a broken seal on the water pump. He tried to have it repaired there, but no good, so told us to have something to eat whilst he went back to a place.

We had passed MacGregor, Man., where there was a sizeable garage. We waited for about an hour and then I decided to go and look for him. It was a few miles back, but he was easy to trace. MacGregor was a real village, the people who owned the garage which was quite a large operation, also owned the Hardware store next door and a building and contracting business next door to that. They must have employed the whole village. When I arrived they had gone to Portage La Prairie for a part.

We went to the local coffee shop and it must have been coffee break for the village. Eventually they arrived with the part, but there was one snag, it was almost dinner time (12:00 noon) everything closed up, everyone went home and we were thrown out. We decided to go back to Portage and do some laundry, but instead took the car in for an oil change and have the brakes adjusted, so never got to the laundry. When it was finished we returned to MacGregor, where they were still working on the truck.

We returned to the coffee shop, where it happened to be coffee break again, and all the same people were back laughing and chatting! When we returned to the garage the truck was finished and after a test run, we were finally on our way at 3:30 p.m. having lost 5½ hours driving time. We travelled about 100 miles and pulled into a motel, which looked very nice out-

side but not quite so nice inside, although not too bad.

Friday morning we left at 7:00 a.m. Another sunny day and everything looked good at last. We soon crossed the Saskatchewan border and shortly after that, all snow except the odd patch disappeared. Saskatchewan is flat at first, then there are a lot of rolling hills and then flat again. We travelled quite a few miles, in fact, we were within 70 miles of the Alberta border. We stopped at Gull Lake in a reasonable motel, not luxurious but comfortable.

Saturday we were up at 6:30, but since we were supposed to put our clocks back an hour and didn't, it was really 5:30, so we were on our way by 6 a.m. Not much traffic, so we were soon past the Alberta border. Miles and miles of flat deserted country side. No snow but a yellowish-grey coloured landscape. A few cows here and there, but otherwise you would think you were in a desert. Medicine Hat looked quite a bustling place, but it's amazing as soon as one is out of the town, it looks like a desert again. Almost as if someone had plopped a town in the middle of a desert by mistake.

We finally came into Calgary at 2:30 and decided to stay. We picked a nice, large, expensive luxurious motel and 5 minutes after we arrived and were getting the things out the car, Penny pulled the fire alarm. And to make matters worse, they couldn't stop it. It must have taken 10 minutes before it could be stopped. Penny was crying and wanting to get in the car, it must have been quite a shock to her. I couldn't even go into our room as Elizabeth had run out, closed the door and left the key inside. So that was a good start!

Anyway we eventually made it downtown and went into The Bay, and bought a set of dishes, which they sent to B.C. free of charge. What a delightful feeling it is to buy something at a certain price and not have to pay tax on top of it.

After doing a bit of shopping in Loblaws and coming back to change, we went downtown again for a western steak dinner, which was enjoyable, though somewhat difficult to find a parking spot, after which we went back to the motel and bed. The temperature was 59 and we were all going around without coats.

We took off again next morning at 7:00 a.m. - up early again as Vagn was too excited to sleep. It was a beautiful Sunday morning, and no one around until we got on the highway to Banff, then cars were whizzing by us with skis on the back. By the time we got into the mountains, it had become colder and cloudy and then we had a snowstorm. We continued on past Banff to Highway 93 which is op-

posite Mount Eisenhower. As soon as we turned off the road was covered with snow and there was a sign that no one should travel through Kootenay National Park (of which this was the beginning) without a shovel.

I slowed down and down and finally couldn't make it any more. I told Vagn I refused to go any further as there were no houses through the park for the next 70 miles. However, I was persuaded to go on, so did at 10 mph. We crawled along in this fashion for quite a few miles until the road cleared. Shortly before we reached Radium Hot Springs there was a very long steep climb which Vagn barely made in the truck. On the other side was a very steep descent and at the bottom Radium, in a terrible state.

The whole thing was under construction and the road, if one could call it that, was dreadful. We made it through and after another 6 miles, we reached White House Lodge. They were quite relieved to see us as they had been expecting to see us for the past 2 or 3 days.

The first person we saw on arrival was Don Fraser, a friend who helped us load the truck in Scarborough. He had arrived the day before and was staying in our house. He was out this way looking for a flying job. He stayed until Tuesday and helped Vagn unload. What a horrible experience - even worse than packing. However, not a single dish or cup was broken, which was amazing, considering the Ontario roads. All our new furniture was in perfect condition and the piano still plays.

If we ever decide which is the best position for the furniture it would be very nice.

The house is old but has great possibilities and is nice and big. The land is a paradise for children, lots to explore and the cabins are quite comfortable looking. The school is near and very modern and the nearest town, Invermere, is only 15 miles, but this doesn't take long to drive, as there are very few cars on the road.

However, the summer will be a lot different. We had our first enquiry today for May 24 weekend, so we might survive after all. We are all very happy about everything especially the children, and Vagn is working like a horse, has given up cigarette smoking and is losing weight rapidly.

Now that you know where the White House Lodge and Motel is, perhaps you would like to take a trip down there and see for yourself how nice it is. —Ed.

News From The Danish Church

About 80 children will enjoy camp life at Sylvan Lake in August in the camp sponsored by the Danish congregations of Calgary and Edmonton. The camp ends Saturday the 22 with a Danish folk-meeting, where the children will sing and show some of their plays. The folk-meeting will be in the afternoon from 2 to 6 p.m. The camp is located west of Sylvan Lake. Drive through Sylvan Lake town on Hwy. 11, 5 miles west to a sign "Lutheran Bible Camp", then turn north (right) 3½ miles to another sign and then turn east (right) another ½ mile and you are there. All are welcome, not only parents of the children on camp.

ROYALTY VISITS YELLOWKNIFE

Gunnar and Shirley Thorvaldson took their children and went to Yellowknife, N.W.T., for the week of July 5-11. Gunnar was on a business trip but took the family along. It was an opportune time to visit Yellowknife as the English Royal Family were there, too. The Thorvaldson's took in the Royal tour and attended a beach barbeque party put on for Princess Anne and Prince Charles. It was held particularly for



the younger people at McNiven Beach and barbequed buffalo-burgers, corn-on-the-cob and soft drinks were served. Princess Anne and Prince Charles mingled with the group, while Queen Elizabeth and Prince Philip were being entertained elsewhere.

The Royal family stayed in the Penthouse Suite of a Yellowknife apartment block and while the Queen was entering the front, Gary, the Thorvaldson's 12-year-old son, took some Polaroid pictures of her. The rest of the family was sitting in the car nearby. The picture reproduced is one which Gary took.

While in Yellowknife, the Thorvaldson's stayed with Ed and Mary Hordal.

EX-BAY MANAGER CESO TROUBLESHOOTER

Ingar Telmer, one-time department store clerk whose merchandising career led him to the manager's desk in the Hudson's Bay Company's Edmonton store was back in Edmonton this summer. He had just returned from a five-week trip to Athens, Greece, for Canadian Executive Service, Overseas of Montreal.

He is what is known as an "executive volunteer", an executive-suite troubleshooter whose job is to go where he is sent and give away the benefit of his years of know-how.

It is a job free from income tax problems because the salary is nil. CESO men have their transportation costs paid by the department of external affairs. And once they are in their assigned country, that country pays their expenses.

The former Bay boss - he retired in 1968 - went to Greece to advise the 22,000-member Handicraft Chamber of Athens on export procedures - specifically, to suggest ways in which the chamber might gain a foothold in the Canadian and American markets.

And Ingars next assignment, "Well," the Norseman reflects, "They were talking Iran" but they haven't told me yet."

Meantime, the Telmers headed back to the coast to catch up on a month-long accumulation of mail.

— The Edmonton Journal.

He: "How about a kiss?"
She: "Sorry, but I have scruples."
He: "That's all right. I've been vaccinated."

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NORWEGIAN PROGRAM

RADIO CKUA, FEB. 8, 1970

Olaf Sveen:

Today we are going to conclude our talks on the religion of the Northmen. So we will deal with a final struggle called "Ragnarok", or in English "The Twilight Of The Gods", or in other words the end of the world. Dr. Charles Bourassa of the University of Alberta is with us again, and my girl, Ingrid, will again ask him some questions.

Ingrid:

In the last two programs we mentioned Ragnarok, the end of the world. Can we talk about that now?

Dr. Bourassa:

Yes, I think we're ready. Without going into all the details, Loki manages to contrive a situation where under the pretense of playing a game he induces Hod, a blind god, to shoot a special arrow which kills Hod's brother, Balder, the most beloved of the gods. Balder of course goes to Hel, but one of the gods pleads with Hel to release Balder. She agrees to do so if everything in the world weeps for Balder. Everything in the world weeps, but one old crone, who says "Let Hel keep what she has." The old crone is Loki in disguise. Without Balder things seem to go less well in Asgard and finally at a big feast Loki so enrages the gods with his taunts that despite his blood brotherhood with Odin, he is captured and bound with a poisonous serpent hung above his head so that the venom drips on his face. As he squirms in his bonds the earth shakes and men tremble in fear of the earthquake but the Aesir think of Balder and turn away.

By this time it is clear Odin has broken many of his vows and Ragnarok is approaching. The end is described in the Poetic Edda in the wise women's prophecy — Volusp. Odin questions this woman about the end and she tells him: "Axe-time, sword-time, shields are sundered, wind-time, wolf-time, ere the world falls." A winter lasting three years comes and finally the golden cock of Asgard crows and from below comes an answer from the rusted cock of Hel. Ragnarok has come.

Garm, the hound of Hel, howls and breaks his chains. The dead rush out upon the world. The Fenris wolf is released, the Midgard serpent crawls upon the land and Nidhogg gnaws away the root of Yggdrasil, the world tree. The Norns cease their spinning. Heimdall, watchman of the gods, sees enemies approaching from all directions and blows his trumpet so the sound echoes through all the world. A great battle is joined. Odin is slain by the Fenris wolf which is then slain by one of Odin's sons. Thor kills the Midgard serpent but in turn is killed by the serpent's poisonous breath. Loki and Heimdall slay one another. Tyr and Garm also kill each other. Eventually virtually everyone is killed and the two Jotuns, who are disguised as wolves, have pursued to the sun and moon through the centuries, at last devour them and darkness settles over the world. Yggdrasil trembles, breaks and collapses and the world is destroyed.

Ingrid:

And was that the end of everything?

Dr. Bourassa:

No, it was apparently believed that the earth would be formed again. Balder and some of the more gentle gods somehow survive and a new world is before us in which a more gentle way of life will prevail.

Ingrid:

I suppose I should ask about how beliefs may have influenced the Vikings.

Dr. Bourassa:

Well, there are some pretty obvious ways these myths probably influenced behavior. I said before that Odin was probably a warrior's god. To believers, it would have been important to not only die in battle, but to die well, for unless you were killed in battle, it would be difficult to be among the chosen ones to help the gods at Ragnarok. So I would suspect that warriors who thought this way would be unusually aggressive and difficult to defeat. I suppose also that believers might fight well even when obviously defeated because they might interpret the defeat as a sign that Odin actually preferred them and wanted them killed so they could join him.

Odin, however, could not have been very popular with the bulk of people who were not warriors. The other more gentle gods and goddesses were probably worshipped by the farmers. In this case there might be little opposition to christianity because the christian beliefs were not too different from their own.

I also mentioned that Thor was probably worshipped in Viking times and he seems to have been the main opponent of Christ.

In a general way we can see that the religion of the Vikings was fairly fatalistic. That is, people may have believed that their fate was fairly well determined, and in fact, the fate of the world was fairly well determined, but nonetheless, they probably felt that they must struggle to live honorably and not bow to fate, just as the gods refused to give in at Ragnarok.

There are suggestions of this in some of the writings. I have quoted some on previous programs but perhaps a few more are in order. I'm referring to the Hovamol, the sayings of the high one. These sayings are often attributed to Odin but this seems very unlikely, as they are far too commonsensical to have come from Odin's lips. In any case these sayings seem to be guides to proper living. Several remark on the necessity of living a good life: "Cattle die, and kinsmen die, and so one dies oneself; but a noble name will never die, if good renown one gets." Others advise us to receive guests with good hospitality, to avoid drinking too much, to be careful of strangers, to frequently seek our friends and give them gifts and so on.

Overall, we see a religion of people who were willing to suffer hardship, and to carry on despite difficulties. As the Hovamol says: "The lame rides a horse, the handless is herdsman, the deaf in battle is bold; the blindman is better than one that is burned. No good can come of a corpse." Perhaps not so heroic as a follower of Odin would like, but still likely to be the belief of a man who will make the best of things and get his job done.

Ingrid:

Do you think these beliefs have any meaning for us today?

Dr. Bourassa:

"Well, I don't think we should try to revive the cult of Odin, but I do think Norse mythology has some meaning for us. Let me start this way. There are several theories about myths. Some believe the myths are stories about real people or events and gradually become greatly exaggerated. Others believe myths are based on, or are explanations of, natural phenomena. That is, the myths are stories made up to account for the setting of the sun, the phases of the moon and so on. Still others believe that while the details of the myths are determined by the environment of the myth makers, there is a kind of unconscious experience which all men share, that is sort of built into our genes, and that in broad outline

the myths represent this unconscious experience. I incline to the view that myths tend to represent something very primitive in our responses to the world and that they are attempts to give words to experiences which are essentially ineffable.

So in some ways I think we can learn something from any set of myths. The Norse myths in particular, however, may be relevant to today's world. Dr. Nelson, the other commentator on this program, has pointed out Norse mythology is in some respects similar to the kind of ideas that many scientists hold. That is, many scientists believe that in a broad outline the fate of the universe is determined. That eventually all life must end. Just as the Norse seem to have held that the world must end. Also, even granting a final end, scientists will maintain that until that time man must strive to understand and perhaps attempt to prevent that end. Beyond this, each individual has a duty to live well and do what he is able to do, so as not to hasten the end. I think Dr. Nelson may have more to say about this in later programs.

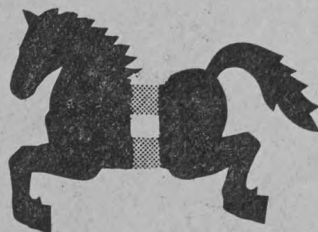
Ingrid:

But today we are living several centuries after the Norse and the world is very different. The world is changing very rapidly and even our beliefs are changing. Can these old myths really mean much to us?

Dr. Bourassa:

What you say is true, and whether a myth of any kind is meaningful depends pretty much on the individual. But we mustn't think that rapid changes are only occurring in the present day. Remember the Norse were a relatively isolated people until they burst out of Scandinavia with their long ships. They travelled widely over most of the known world and traded and pillaged in Europe and England where they came in contact with ancient cathedrals and universities. They saw the Orient and dealt with Islamic nations. They brought back to Scandinavia trade goods and ideas which must have been as shattering to them as some current ideas are to us. They lived through a time when petty kingdoms were being converted to nations and old ways were exchanged for new. And in some ways the mythology must reflect this.

The idea of Yggdrasil, the world tree which held together the worlds and yet was being gnawed at constantly by forces of destruction is very nearly a direct parallel to the way our environment is being attacked today. The dragon gnawing the roots of the world tree, the animals tearing off its foliage is not so far from the way we are spoiling our rivers, denuding our land, polluting our air, and in general destroying our world. The old Norse myths may or may not be meaningful to us today but it seems that Christianity is now declining just as the Norse myths did, and the new myths may be closer to the old than now seems likely.



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DANIA DOINGS



BY CLAUS JACOBSEN

The Danish Society Dania extends best wishes to all Scandinavians on their visits in Canada and a hearty welcome to Edmonton, Alberta. Hope you enjoy your stay in this province and we hope to see you back again.

* * *

Dania's Secretary, Vera Nielsen, and her husband, Tom, are on a well deserved holiday in Denmark, as a matter of fact all over Europe, on a Eurail pass. We wish them a happy holiday and heartily welcome them back in August.

* * *

We will all meet at the D.S. Ranch, ½ mile west of Winterburn on Hwy. 16, for a shooting contest on Sunday, Aug. 16 at 2:00 p.m. There will be trophies for clay pigeons (bring your own shotgun), targets and also bow and arrows. Games for the kids include hayrides, fishing, balloons and darts. Admission to the grounds will be \$1.00 for adults, children free. Hot dogs and ice cream will be available. See the Bulletin Board for the special ad.

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SPORTS CORNER

By Ole Jensen of the Dania Soccer Club

SOCCER SCHEDULE FOR SECOND DIVISION

Aug. 5 — 6:30 p.m. —
Dania vs Sports F.C., Kinsmen Park.
Aug. 12 — 6:30 p.m. —
Dania vs Universe S.C., Kinsmen Park.
Aug. 16 — 2:00 p.m. —
Dania vs 1st D.F.C., Victoria Grounds.
Aug. 21 — 6:30 p.m. —
Dania vs Croatia, J.P. Bowl.
Aug. 28 — 6:30 p.m. —
Dania vs City Police, Kinsmen Park.
* * *

JUNE 19 —

Dania played Croatia at Kinsmen Park. Dania played well and had most of the play. Ron Peal scored one goal after 20 minutes and 15 minutes later Soren Totnip scored for Dania. First half ended by Dania leading 2-0.

In the second half Croatia scored one goal after 30 minutes of play. Dania had no score. The game ended with Dania winning 2-1.

JUNE 24 —

At Kinsmen Park Dania played against City Police. Otto Berg scored one goal after 20 minutes of play and 5 minutes later Bill Moore scored a goal, both for Dania. City Police got one goal on a penalty, although it appeared the referee did not have complete control over the game. First half ended with Dania leading 2-1.

Second half started with really rough play from both sides and 20 minutes later Ron Peal scored one goal. The referee called the game off ten minutes later because of poor sportsmanship. Dania won 3-1 over City Police. This will still count in the league because it was played for a duration of over one hour.

JULY 3 —

Dania played against St. Albert at St. Albert Field and it was a beautiful 80° evening with no wind at all.

The game started at 6:30 p.m. Dania held most of the play right from the beginning and after 20 minutes of play Bill Moore scored one goal for Dania with Otto Berg assisting him. Dania had another chance to score but did not succeed. St. Albert scored after 40 minutes of play and the half ended with both teams having one goal each.

Second half started with Dania still having most of the play. Five minutes later Bill Moore scored his second goal for Dania with Otto Berg assisting him again. After 15 minutes of play St. Albert scored a quick goal and the score was tied up for the second time. After 30 minutes of the second half Otto scored one goal for Dania and 5 minutes later Erling Hansen scored the fourth goal for Dania. This game was well played. The defence was good and worked well with the offence players. The game ended with Dania winning 4-2.

JULY 14 —

Dania played against Ritchie Canadians at Coronation Park. Ritchie Canadians, being a strong team in the league, came ahead 1-0 after 20 minutes of play. Twenty minutes later they scored another goal, leading Dania 2-0 in the first half.

In the second half Dania started out well with Ron Peal scoring one goal after three minutes of play. After 20 minutes of play Ron scored his second goal. Five minutes later Ritchie scored another goal, leading 4-2. Five minutes before the game finished Erling Hansen scored the final goal of the game.

The game was well played by both teams and Ritchie Canadians

are considered to be one of the toughest teams in the league. The defence on Dania's team played exceptionally well. Ritchie won the game 4-3.

CLAY PIGEON SHOOT —

On July 4 Freje Handball Club and Dania Soccer Club had the second Clay Pigeon Shoot of the season. It was held at Ken Clark's farm on Hwy. 15, northeast on the Fort Rd. on the way to Fort Saskatchewan. Fewer people attended than last time but we are aware a lot of people are on holidays now. We hope for a better turn out on Aug. 8 at 1:00 p.m. A new event was introduced using a 4.5 mm air pistol which was enjoyed by both men and women as well as the children. The final placing in this event was Aage Mortensen and Knud Svendgaard. One of the finalists left early and final placing will be determined next time.

A clay pigeon shoot with shot guns was held and many entered this event. Konrad Hansen was the only man to shoot the maximum points so he took the trophy in this event. Four competed for second prize — Willy Christensen, Knud Svendgaard, Ole Jensen and Peter Jensen. The second prize was won by Peter Jensen.

The .22 calibre rifle shooting was also held and it was appreciated. Some brought their own rifles. Please bring your own .22 rifle if you wish to enter this event on Aug. 8. The finalists were Aage Mortensen and Willy Christensen. The trophy was won by Willy Christensen.

* * *

WRESTLING

The World Amateur Wrestling Championships were held in Edmonton in July and three wrestlers and a referee came from Norway to enter the competitions. They were: Oddvar Svendsen, Oystein Davidson, Oivind Solsjaer, and Harold Barlie. They were met at the airport by a few Lodge members of the Sons of Norway. While in Edmonton they were invited guests of the "Torske Klubben" dinner held on Tuesday, July 7.

Hospitality by other local ethnic groups were shown their countrymen by invitations to homes and sight-seeing trips. For former Canadian figure skating champion, Pat Underhill, who competed in the world championships in Finland 13 years ago, it was a chance to return a favor to her host in Europe, Esko Kossila of Finland. He was the delegation head of the Finland team. There were countless other stories of that nature in Edmonton during the competitions.

FOOTBALL

Knute Rockne, who became one of the most successful coaches in the history of football, was born in Voss, Norway, in 1893.

As captain of the Notre Dame University football team he revolutionized football strategy by the use of the forward pass. In 1906, the forward pass was made a part of the game but was hardly used until Rockne began using it in 1913. That year Notre Dame won over the highly favoured Army team.

By using the pass a light team could defeat a heavier team that was not skilled in its use. This feature increased the popularity of football immensely.

In 1918 Rockne became head coach of Notre Dame. In the 13 years that he was head coach, Notre Dame lost only 12 games.

Rockne was killed in an airplane crash in 1931.

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Sunday, Aug. 9th, 11 a.m. English Service. Holy Communion.

Sunday, Aug. 16th, 11 a.m. Danish Service. Holy Communion.

Sunday, Aug. 23rd, 8 p.m. English Service.

Sunday, Aug. 30th, 11 a.m. Danish Service.

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